

Docket No. RIC99010

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 5, as follows.

The present application ~~is related to, and~~ claims the benefit of priority ~~from, of~~ co-pending U.S. patent application 60/206,564, entitled "Method and System for Managing Partitioned Data Resources," and filed on May 22, 2000, ~~currently pending~~. The above identified application is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please insert the following paragraph before the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 12.

--FIG. 2B depicts a hub and spoke architecture where applications message one another via messaging middleware according to the prior art messaging techniques.--